

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

DODE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5230

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

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JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, SA

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO ARAB/ISRAELI FIGHTING

1. TODAY'S HEADLINES READ: NIXON AFFIRMS TO ARAB
MINISTERS: SETTLEMENT MUST BE SOUND, JUST AND HONORABLE -
ENEMY ATTACKS IN GOLAN AND SINAI CRUSHED - AMBASSADORS
FROM 25 AFRICAN STATES ANNOUNCE COMPLETE SOLIDARITY WITH
ARABS - MEIR ANNOUNCES READINESS TO WITHDRAW AND EBAN
AFFIRMS ENEMY PREPARED TO MAKE AMPLE CONCESSIONS. IN
STORY ON ARAB AMBASSADORS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT NIXON
SAQQAF QUOTED SAYING: "WE THINK THE MAN WHO SOLVED THE
VIETNAM WAR, THE MAN WHO COULD HAVE SETTLED PEACE ALL
OVER THE WORLD, CAN EASILY PLAY A ROLE IN SETTLING THE
MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM." FRONT PAGE PROMINENCE ALSO GIVEN
KUWAITI DECISION RESTORE SUBSIDY TO JORDAN.

2. SIGNIFICANTLY, LOCAL PRESS DID NOT HEADLINE NEWS
OF ARAB OIL-PRODUCING NATIONS DECISION REDUCE OIL PRODUCTION.
SAUDI NEWS AGENCY RELEASE, WHICH CARRIED ON FRONT PAGES
AL BILAD AND UKAZ, WAS TERSE AND MATTER-OF-FACT: "IT WAS
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REPORTED IN A NEWS ITEM FROM THE KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY

THAT ELEVEN ARAB OIL-PRODUCING NATIONS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THEY WILL REDUCE THEIR OIL PRODUCTION FIVE PER CENT EVERY MONTH UNTIL ISRAEL WITHDRAWS FROM THE TERRITORIES SHE HAS OCCUPIED AND THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE ARE RESTORED. A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ARAB OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES SAID THAT EACH REDUCTION WILL BE CALCULATED ON THE BASIS OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH'S PRODUCTION. HE SAID THE REDUCTION OF PRODUCTION IS AIMED AT THOSE STATES SUPPORTING ISRAEL. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT STATES FRIENDLY TO THE ARABS WILL BE GIVEN SPECIAL TREATMENT WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM TO MAINTAIN THEIR PRESENT SHARE OF ARAB OIL."

3. ONLY AL MADINA CARRIED EDITORIAL TODAY. UNDER TITLE THE ARABS AS THEY APPEAR NOW PAPER SAID: "ISRAEL IS NOW LIVING HER MOST DIFFICULT DAYS SINCE SHE WAS CREATED. ALTHOUGH SHE IS NOT EXPOSED TO ANNIHILATION AT THE PRESENT TIME, NEVERTHELESS, SHE IS CANDIDATE FOR THIS IN THE LONG RUN, BECAUSE THE ISRAELI ENTITY IS ALIEN TO THE AREA. WEAPONRY BY ITSELF WILL NOT BE A SOLUTION TO THE TURMOIL IN WHICH ISRAELI POLITICIANS LIVE...THE ISRAELIS NOW REALIZE THAT THEY HAVE TWO DIFFICULT CHOICES: EITHER TO CONTINUE THEIR MILITARY RESISTANCE AND THUS BE SUBJECTED TO EVENTUAL MILITARY DEFEAT, OR RATHER ACCEPT SOME FORMULA OF A SOLUTION THAT MIGHT SAVE THEIR FACES AND SIMULTANEOUSLY IMPLEMENT RESOLUTION 242 UNDER U.N. SUPERVISION.

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